

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

SEP 1 6 2016

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> 7015 1730 0002 0524 3662 RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Miami-Dade County Attn.: Mr. Lester Sola Director, Water and Sewer Department 3071 SW 38th Avenue Miami, Florida 33146

Re: Consent Decree No. 1:12-cv-24400-FAM Demand for Stipulated Penalties

Dear Mr. Sola:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 is in receipt of the Quarterly Reports that Miami-Dade County (Miami-Dade) has submitted for the months of January 2015 through December 2015 in compliance with Section IX, Paragraph 32 of the Consent Decree. These Quarterly Reports show that Miami-Dade experienced fourteen (14) total Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) that reached waters of the United States.

Pursuant to Section X, Paragraph 42.(a) of the Consent Decree and the *Order Modifying Section X of the Consent Decree* (Document 156), the EPA may assess a stipulated penalty for each SSO that reaches waters of the United States in a dollar amount that is dependent on the size of the SSO and when the SSO occurred.

Miami-Dade demonstrated that three (3) of these fourteen (14) SSOs were caused by non-County Contractors or vandalism and that it had used all reasonable measures to prevent these SSOs. As a result, Miami-Dade is not liable for stipulated penalties for these SSOs pursuant to Paragraph 42.(a).(vi) of the Consent Decree.

For the remaining eleven (11) SSOs, after review of the submitted documentation with respect to the volume and circumstances surrounding each SSO, the EPA hereby demands stipulated penalties in the amount of \$14,000.

The EPA has received confirmation from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) that it has elected to join in on this demand pursuant to Paragraph 44 of the Consent Decree. As a result, and in accordance with Paragraph 44 of the Consent Decree, Miami-Dade shall pay, within 30 days of receipt of this letter, \$7,000 (50%) of the stipulated penalty to the United States and \$7,000 (50%) of the stipulated penalty amount of \$14,000. Miami-Dade shall pay

stipulated penalties owing to the United States in the manner set forth and with the confirmation notices required by Paragraph 21 of the Consent Decree, except that the transmittal letter shall state that the payment is for stipulated penalties and shall state for which violation(s) the penalties are being paid. Miami-Dade shall pay stipulated penalties owing to FDEP in the manner set forth in Paragraph 22 of the Consent Decree.

If you have any questions, please have your attorneys contact Mr. William Bush, the Associate Regional Counsel assigned to this matter, at (404) 562-9538.

Sincerely, Sincerely,

Denisse D. Diaz, Chief

NPDES Permitting and Enforcement Branch

Water Protection Division

cc: Mr. Jonathan A. Glogau Office of the Attorney General

Mr. Kirk White

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Ms. Lisa Self

Florida Department of Environmental Protection

Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez

Miami-Dade County

Mr. Jack Osterholt

Miami-Dade Regulatory and Economic Resources

Ms. Abigail Price-Williams

Miami-Dade County Attorney

Mr. William A. Weinischke

U.S. Department of Justice

Ms. Rachael Amy Kamons

U.S. Department of Justice